



Maddie's
Fund

Parvo Outpatient Program Curriculum

The Parvo Outpatient Apprenticeship program will provide a hands-on and comprehensive strategy for providing twice-daily outpatient therapy for patients with canine parvovirus who cannot be treated at private veterinary facilities due to financial inability and/or lack of access to services on the part of the client.

It will provide protocols that can be utilized by animal shelters, veterinary hospitals, rescue groups, and other animal welfare organizations to assist low-income community members. Focus will also be given to how shelters and foster homes can apply these protocols to care for the animals in their programs.

All animal organizations and veterinary hospitals that operate in low-income and underserved communities will benefit from this program, although others are welcome to apply. Veterinarians, veterinary technicians and those providing primary medical care for animals are encouraged to apply.

This one-week program will focus on providing all the necessary tools for implementing a treatment strategy with a focus on treatment of affected pets and minimizing the risk of infection to other animals in private and foster homes as well as clinics and shelters.

Enrollees will perform a hands on-role and be trained in acquiring physical examination parameters, creating treatment protocols, providing medications, evaluating response to therapy, essential communication with clients/owners and quarantine protocols to prevent the spread of infection.

The goal of the course is to provide training in all essential aspects of creating an outpatient parvo program so similar facilities can implement it in their community. The desire and ability to repeat the clinic at your facility will be a major factor in selecting applicants.

Learning Objectives:

- 1) Be able to identify potential parvo positive dogs on presentation.
 - a. Obtain proper history from owner (if possible)
 - b. Identify clinical signs of the disease (anorexia, vomiting, diarrhea, dehydration)
 - c. Identify at risk population (vaccination history, age)
- 2) Be able to learn how to test patients for parvo
 - a. How to perform parvo snap test
 - b. Blood Smear Evaluation if suspected but negative on test
- 3) Perform accurate physical examination to identify hydration status and severity of disease state
 - a. Mucous Membrane Evaluation, Skin Turgor Testing, other parameters
 - b. Evaluate heart rate, respiratory rate, temperature
 - c. Obtain Hematocrit and evaluate PCV/T.S. in context of estimating percent dehydration
 - d. Obtain sample for blood glucose measurement
 - e. Perform complete physical examination to identify concurrent disease or comorbidities
- 4) Create an comprehensive treatment plan
 - a. Decide initial fluid treatment route and amount of administration
 - b. Be able to calculate doses of medications and preferred route of administration (PO, IV, SQ).
 - c. Decide on nutrition plan for patient
 - d. Be able to modify treatment plan based on response to therapy
- 5) Quarantine/Isolation Procedures
 - a. Learn how disease is spread, identify risks to other animals
 - b. Be able to create a policy for ensuring risk to non-effected dogs in shelter/practice is very low.
 - c. Be able to provide treatment for patient while eliminating fomite transmission of disease.
- 6) Counseling
 - a. Be able to provide extensive counseling to owners (when applicable) about how the disease is spread, risk to other pets in house, other animals in the community
 - b. Be able to understand vaccination guidelines/protocols for preventing parvovirus